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The Region of Sine-Saloum
The Port of Kaolack
/La Région du Sine-Saloum
Le Port de Kaolack/

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I. General Information

131 634 a) Geographical survey. The circle /cercle, an administrative district/ of Sine-Saloum is a vast region of 26,000 square kilometers in area. It is one of the most important parts of the colony of Senegal. It is a heavily populated region. Finally, it has an economic value greater than that of the other territories which, together with it, constitute the Government of Senegal in French West Africa.

Bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, it touches on the upper basin of the Gambia to the east and therefore on the very borders of the western Sudan, from which it is separated only by the circle of Tambacounda.

To the north, it reaches the desert of the Ferlo and the Djoloff region.

Along the entire southern part, its frontier runs along the territory of the British colony of Gambia, following precisely the parallel 13° 35' 36", conforming to the delimitation of the International Commission of 1891.

Such are its geographic limits.

133 A great navigable route crosses it from east to west, ending at the ocean; this is the Saloum River, which today is no more than a long maritime channel, narrow in its upper part, which the mud ruins by obstructing it, and ending in a vast estuary with a thousand /93/ ramifications, bordered by banks of sand and providing passage for ocean-going vessels at the place called Pointe de Sangomar, where there is a very narrow and not very deep passage. At low tide, in fact, the depths there are only three and a half to four meters. Under the influence of the trade winds and the tide race, the bar is subject to displacements which the hydrographic [502] service rectifies by a series of buoys which is continued even [361] beyond the estuary and up to Kaolack, a port about 100 kilometers from the coast.

[505] In this sea arm of the Saloum, the tide makes its effects felt almost to Birkelane, 130 kilometers from the ocean. The

/93 cont./

133 channel, however, is accessible to ocean-going vessels of
505 4,000 to 6,000 tons (1) only as far as Kaolack, whose im-

1. This is about the tonnage of the vessels of the Compagnie Paquet, of the House of Manrel and Prom, and of the foreign vessels which visit the port of Kaolack.

[439]

portance with respect to navigation we shall discuss below.

The Saloum extends into the interior of the land a series of arms which are so many channels or "marigots" /watercourses/ open to cutters and to the native dugouts.

One of the most important is the Sine, which starts at Foundiougne and runs, after many meanders, to the port of Fatick, coming out from the Sérère /Serer/ region, which, however, only cutters of 40 tons can reach.

Nevertheless, the Sine allows steamers of considerable tonnage to tie up at the wharves of Niamnioroh, a small locality which over the past several years has become the gateway to the regions of Sine and western Baol.

133 The appearance of the part neighboring the ocean up to Bathurst is one of a vast fluvial network encompassing islets of low, clayey or sandy land, bordered by huge mangrove trees; this is the region called Bas-Saloum /Lower Saloum/, a fertile area of the same nature as Basse-Casamance /Lower Casamance/, a region of palm trees and of quite dense forests, where unfortunately the clearing of land has begun its devastating work.

From the orographic viewpoint, the region of Sine-Saloum /94/ is a flat region with very slight undulations of the terrain.

Broad longitudinal valleys in a north-south direction descend from the clayey and semi-desert plateaus of the Ferlo and end at the Gambia.

During the rainy season, these depressions in the vicinity of this river form copious streams which dry up rapidly.

/94 cont./

133 On the right bank of the Saloum, these valleys form a more or less continuous string of ponds during the winter.

One of these valleys bears the name of Bao-Bolon; it is several kilometers wide and is the outlet of the region of Birkelane-Kaffrine. The natives report that 50 years ago [505] cutters from Gambia were able to go up this affluent as far as a passage between Nioro-Rip and Médina, about 20 kilometers to the north upstream from the river.

133 134 In the lower valley of the Saloum, along the marigots, one finds the "tannes," marshy depressions covered with water during the winter, but where, during the dry season, the mud is covered with a layer of sand, which, with saline efflorescences, hardens to the point of constituting a rather firm soil. Here one finds a composite of lime and salt; this is the "poto-poto," feared by travelers, motorists, and pedestrians, who can very easily be swallowed up by it. Between Sangomar and the Gambia, the marine affluents of the Diomboss and the Bandiala and the marigots of Dionouar, Toubacouta, Sokone, Messira, and Djinnack are disclosed.

The upper valley of the Saloum, oriented from east to west, presents less sandy soil with outcrops of laterite. Some undulations of the terrain are more pronounced toward the west, in the region of Pakalla Mandack and Niani-Ouli, where the ravines are at times very deep. The plain and the bottom of [137] the depressions are wooded or covered with a very flourishing vegetation.

The northern part of the circle, which is traversed by the valley of the Sine, is made up of sandy soil, very propitious for the cultivation of groundnuts. This valley, 133 formerly watered by streams, has been entirely overrun by the /95/ sea. This drying up of the region is moreover characteristic of almost all of Senegal. One sees it there in the diminution of the volume of certain rivers, a diminution that sometimes, as in the Cayor, Ferlo, Baol, Sine, and Saloum, extends to the total disappearance of the water.

Moreover, one notes that, as a result of the evaporation of the waters of the Saloum, the salt content of these waters is greater than that of the ocean.

/95 cont./

134 From the geological viewpoint, the soil of Sine-Saloum is silico-argillaceous, except for the edge of the sea formed by dunes of white sand. Sand predominates in the north. Everywhere else it is mixed with red clay.

135 The subsoil covers ferruginous rock, alluvial laterite, undoubtedly coming from the decomposition of granitic rock; this is the ferruginous fossil layer, following the expression of Henri Hubert, which covers the limestone and marl of the Eocene period.

Numerous outcrops of laterite appear at Kaffrine, Koungheul, in Mandack, and in Rip.

The digging of wells tells us something about the composition of the terrain forming the subsoil in this region. Under a more or less thick layer of sand, one finds laterite, then chalk or soft limestone, and finally hard limestone.

A highly varied and fossilized marine fauna has been discovered in the soft limestone at a depth of about 35, 40, 45 meters.

173 b) Historical survey. The history of the inhabitants consists of more or less confused oral traditions. No account has been handed down in writing. We can therefore only rely on narrations, sometimes contradictory, which the natives hand down orally.

The representatives of the conquering or conquered races have their own versions. It is difficult for the European to tell which part is truth or falsehood. Our penetration into
175 this part of Senegal is /96/ recent. It happened barely 80
438 years ago. At first it was fragmentary; the region was traversed by the merchant or trader at the time of the slave trade; the latter quickly returned to his base from the Petite Côte or from Gorée, the turbulence of the tribes not permitting him to stay in the region or to settle down there. A number of business establishments were founded at the end of the eighteenth century and at the beginning of the nineteenth, but their existence was ephemeral and in any case precarious.
175 The internal struggles between the tribes gave the region little

S /96 cont./
175 security. It took until 1860 to catch sight of a beginning of colonization, an attempt at penetration, supported by arms.

S Two large political groupings and a multitude of petty
SR states, both independent and vassal, divided the region.
175 On the one hand, the kingdom of Sine, peopled by
SR Sérère, was established to the west, on the right bank of the
LB1 Saloum, from the ocean to a distance of 20 kilometers from Kaolack.

Neighboring the latter, surrounding Kaolack and extending to the east up to Kaffrine, going north to Kael, and planting its roots to the south of the Saloum River as far as Rip, extended the kingdom of Saloum, peopled by Sérère, Toucouleur /Tukolor/, and Ouoloff /Wolof/.

On the right bank one found the vassal state of N'Doukoumane, subject to the king of Saloum, and the semi-independent state of Koungheul; on the left bank, the now independent, now vassal states of Pakalla and Mandack, Rip, Laghem, and Niombato.

SR Sine and Saloum had a very hierarchical political and
[643] administrative organization. The sovereign authority was held by the "Bour" or king. Powerful and respected, this great chief was surrounded by counselors or ministers with whose help he governed, administered justice, levied taxes, and declared war. It was this organization that we found upon our arrival in the region. It is very old, but the exact time at which it was established cannot be stated.

S It seems certain, however, that the country was originally
SR inhabited by the Sérère, who thus were the first inhabitants. A
173 fetishistic people, they are related /97/, according to their
[644] morphological characteristics, to the Lébou of the peninsula of Cape Verde.

At an undetermined time, the Mandingue /Mandingo/, coming from N'Gabou (Portuguese Guinea), crossed the Gambia, occupied Coular, crossed the Saloum, and overran Sine, capturing M'Bissel, the capital of the Sérère.

Conquered, the latter offered their submission. In con-
SR trast to the other races, they stayed on their ancestral land
[563] without emigrating. The Mandingue invasion did not concern

S /97 cont./
SR the Sérère, a peaceful cultivator. The latter submitted to
173 the yoke calmly and to some extent absorbed the conquerors
SR through marriages which multiplied between the victorious
[563] Guelewar chiefs and the women of the country.

The merging of the races was complete. From the union of the conquering Mandingue chief Maïssa Waldione and a Sérère princess, Ouagana was born. This young warrior dethroned the Sérère Bours and moved the capital from M'Bissel to Diakhao. The Guelewars are thus usurpers. The dethroned Bours, who are still called "Bours Ganieck," never tried to regain their royalty.

A short time later a brother of Ouagana, named Bégana, succeeded in seizing authority in Saloum by stripping of his prerogatives the Bour Saloum, Elibane, of Toucouleur origin, who reigned at Kahone.

At that time, Saloum extended south as far as the Gambia.

S The Mandingue invasion, making an oil stain, de-
173 tached one branch, the Socé, who occupied the southern portion, from Messira to Koungheul.

The Socé a short time later were separated into two sections by the conquering Dabali at the head of the Toucouleur from Fouta-Toro. These invaders occupied Rip and remained
S there, founding a family with the Socé and the Ouoloff. They
[771] contributed to the Islamization of the first occupants and were strong enough to shake off the yoke of Saloum. The principality of Rip was very powerful on various occasions.

The Ouoloff race, originally from the north, penetrated /98/ everywhere to some extent, into Saloum, into Sine, and as far as into Rip and Niom-Bato.

The Peuhl /Peul/ or Foulbé /Fulbe/ are not very numerous; they peacefully infiltrated among the other races.

SR We have seen above that the Bour in Sine and Saloum
643 was chosen from the noble caste of the Guelewars. This
[565] royalty was not hereditary. The Bour was selected publicly by
645 a high personage, the Grand Diaraff, a kind of prime minister
000 taken from the free caste of the Diambours. Next to him,

SR 645 /98 cont./ there was the Grand Farba, a slave of the crown, who performed the functions of head of the army. There was also the Farba Birkeur, or court minister, and a series of dignitaries for various jobs, up to the court jester or Bissète.

S SR 175 648 The first attempts at French colonization in this part of Senegal date back to 1859, the date of the first military expedition into Sine-Saloum. In 1875, we concluded a treaty of alliance and trade with the king of Saloum, but the provisions were never observed by the native chiefs.

Governor Faidherbe explored the country and carried on reconnaissance as far as Kaolack. Following this demonstration he made a new treaty with the Bour Saloum in 1859. This agreement, like the preceding one, remained a dead letter, and it was necessary to organize an expedition in February 1861. Major Pinet-Laprade was given the command.

The marabout, a warrior of the Toucouleur race, Ma Ba, installed at Nioro-Rip, rose up against our arms.

In 1865 his activities forced us to throw a column into Rip.

Defeated by us, he nevertheless held us in check until 1867, when he was killed in the battle of Somb.

His brother, Mamour Dary, was only able to resist us weakly. Upon his death, Saër Maty resumed hostilities, seizing Kahone, the capital of Saloum.

His power becoming troublesome, an expedition /99/ was deemed necessary. It took place in April 1887, under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Coronnat.

Nioro was taken, and on May 14, 1887, a treaty was signed with the chiefs of Saloum, placing Saloum, Niom, and Rip under our protection.

S [634] An administrator was placed at Foundiougne, and a circle was created.

In 1891, treaties made with the kings of Sine and Saloum secured our authority definitively throughout the country.

The administrative organization was then set up gradually and without difficulties.

/99 cont./

S 162 Population. As we have just seen in this brief historical account, the principal native races occupying the region are: the Sérère, the Socé or Mandingue, the Toucouleur, and the Peuhl.

The population is distributed as follows:

Ouoloff	105,000	inhabitants
Sérère	85,000	"
Mandingue or Socé	50,000	"
Peuhl	10,000	"
Foreigners and miscellaneous	15,000	"
Total	280,000	inhabitants

S [161] In 15 years, the population, which in 1913 numbered 180,000 natives, increased by more than a third. This result is due, not only to the birth rate, but also and above all to the immigrants from neighboring countries (Upper Gambia, Sudan, Guinea, Casamance), who are attracted by the economic development of the region.

S 791 Religion. Fetishism is losing ground to the benefit of Islamism. This religion is predominant at present. Only the SR [771] Sérère still preserves his ancestral customs, but he is attracted to the religion of Islam. Three Moslem sects are represented: S [795] the Tidjania, the Kadria, and the Murids.

Muridism, a new religious sect which has as prophet the venerated marabout, the late Serigne Bamba, has its great mosque at N'Diourbel in Baol.

/100/ The Moslem populations are the Ouoloff, the Toucouleur, and a part of the Socé.

SR [771] The fetishism of the Sérère is a naturistic cult.

SR 105 [611] The customs are derived from the matriarchy. It is a regime of castes. Paternal authority is preserved intact in the family, with, however, respect for the mother and certain prerogatives of the maternal line, notably in the matter of succession. The captive, formerly, was treated gently by his

/100 cont./

SR 105 [643] master. The order of succession to the throne was governed by immutable rules. The Grand Diaraff chose the Bour, while being bound to take him from the princely caste of the Guelwars and from the maternal line. The title of Queen, or Linguère, was borne, not by the wife of the Bour, but by his mother.

S 132 Climate. Soil. The climate of Sine-Saloum is very hot and dry. It is painful for the European. The thermometer never drops below 12° centigrade at night. During the day it sometimes climbs up to 45° and even 48°. The thermic average is from 28° to 30°. Two seasons sharply contrast: the dry season, which lasts from November to June and during which the east wind, searing and drying, blows; the rainy season or winter, which runs from June to November, an unhealthy period when swamp fever prevails. The atmospheric precipitation is plentiful. It drops on the average one to 1.20 meters of water. This is very little compared to the figures for Lower Guinea (four to five meters); it is less than in Casamance where the annual rainfall is two meters. But the rate of rainfall here is higher than in all the rest of Senegal. At Dakar and Saint-Louis, for example, from 0.45 to 0.55 meters of water falls.

S 133 312 [134] The soil is generally permeable. In certain places drinking water is reached at a shallow depth. By contrast, in other places it is necessary to dig very deep wells. At Fatick, the surface layer of fresh water is at two and a half or three meters. At Kaolack, it is necessary to go more than ten meters, although in some years water has been found at six meters. At Gossas, a deprived area, it has been necessary to dig as far as 90 meters; at Guinguinéo, /map appears here/ /101/ wells are 60 meters deep. It is fitting to mention, as a curious fact, the presence of fresh water on the edge of the marigots of salt water. For example, at Dangana (Sine), the well of the encampment, which is dug one meter from the edge of the river bank and to a depth of 1.5 meters, contains potable water which the inhabitants use.

S 134 The soil is not very rich in humus. It is sandy in the north and silico-argillaceous in the other areas, but very nearly

/Between 100 and 101/

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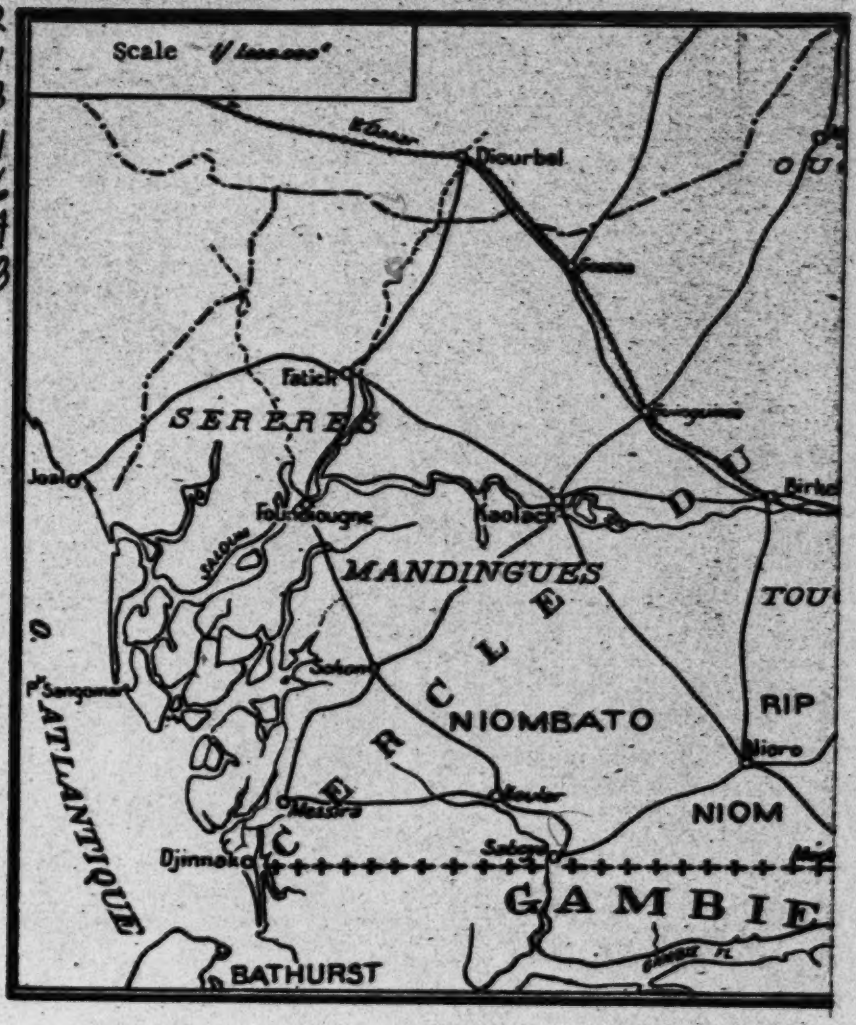

Circle of Sine Saloum

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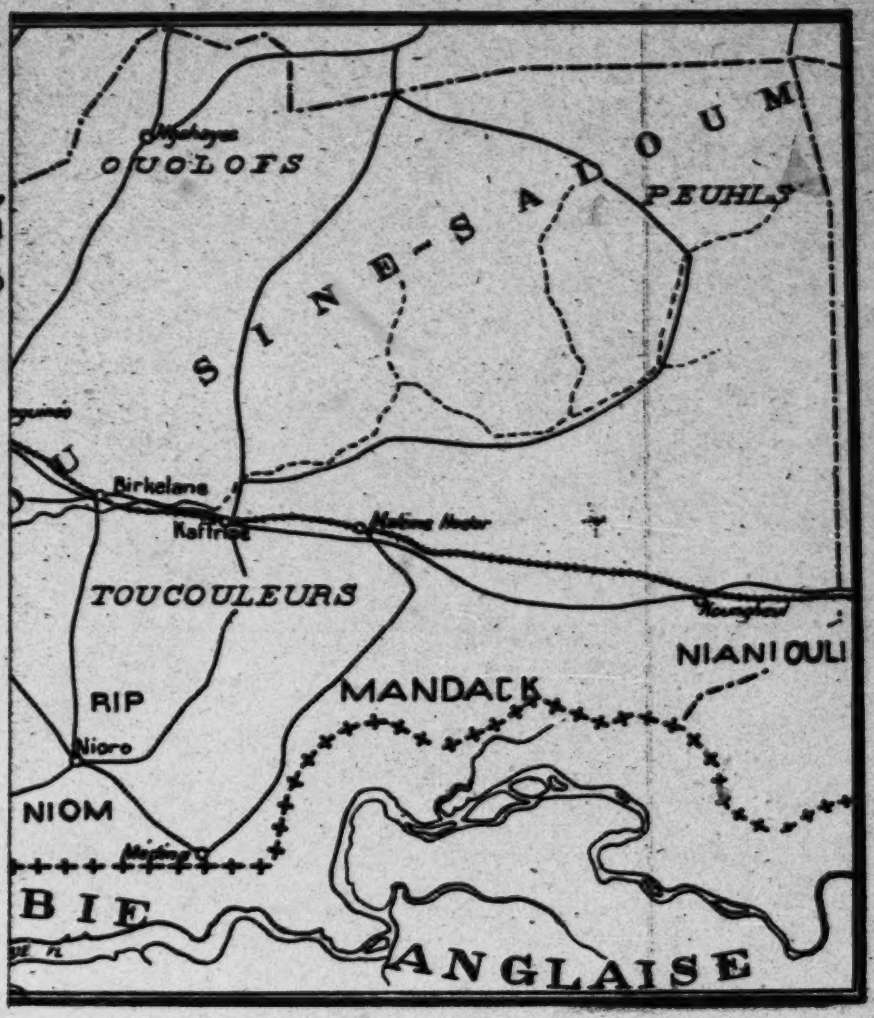

Circle of Sine Saloum

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/101 cont./

134 everywhere the terrain is suitable for the cultivation of groundnuts, except in Bas-Saloum.

137 A very dense, thorny, and shrubby vegetation grows in the sandy soil. This is the region of the cades (Acacia albida). In the silico-argillaceous lands of the south and east, the vegetation is more vigorous; one still finds there at the present time interesting forest stocks, vestiges of the great forests of former times. These groves are on the way to disappearing as a result of the abuses of clearing and of the unfortunately too frequent fires. The forests of Patako, between Messira and Coular, and of Dasilamé, between Nioro and Médina, which contain many hardwoods, Gambian mahogany, vène, and hire, are to be protected.

II. Administrative Organization

634 Territorial divisions. The two large native commands of Sine and Saloum have been eliminated, and the title of Bour, which was only honorific in nature, has ceased to exist legally.

632 634 The circle is divided into three major administrative subdivisions:

1st, Subdivision of Sine, chief town Fatick;

2nd, Subdivision of Bas-Saloum, with Foundiougne as the chief town;

3rd, Subdivision of Saloum Oriental, chief town Kaolack.

An administrator is at the head of the circle, and each subdivision is commanded by an official of the corps of administrators or of the corps of civil services.

632 Divided among these three subdivisions are 19 cantons or native commands, each /102/ of which is headed by a canton chief.

The subdivision of Saloum Oriental has 11 cantons:

Kaolack-Laghem,
Kahone,
Diokoul-Gandiaye,
Gossas,
Niom-Rip,
Nioro-Rip,

/102 cont./

632 N'Gahaye.
N'Guer.
Pakalla-Mandack
N'Doukoumane (Kaffrine)
Koungheul.

The subdivision of Sine is divided into five cantons:

Diakhao-Maroutte.
Sanghaye-N'Gayokème.
Diohine.
Diouroup.
Dangana.

The subdivision of Bas-Saloum has three cantons:

Djilor.
Sokone.
Niombato.

162 The population is distributed as follows:

Subdivision of Kaolack	141,000	inhabitants
Subdivision of Sine.....	89,000	"
Subdivision of Bas-Saloum...	50,000	"
Total	280,000	

633 Mixed communes. Mixed communes have been created in certain important localities. There are four of them:

Kaolack.
Fatick.
Foundiougne.
Gossas.

633 /103/ The mixed commune of Kaolack has 700 Europeans
162 and assimilated individuals /assimilés/ and 8,000 natives (20 years ago it had 50 Europeans and 600 natives).

That of Fatick has 2,000 natives and 120 Europeans. Those of Foundiougne and Gossas have 50 Europeans and 800 natives each.

633 The importance of Kaolack comes from the fact that it is the principal port of the Saloum, the terminal point of a branch of the major railroad from the Sudan, and the center of a region that is a great producer of groundnuts.

There is a chamber of commerce, a court of the first

/103 cont./

633 instance, a customs office, and a telegraph, telephone, and
[647] post office. The various administrative services are represented there (public works, treasury, medical aid, education, agriculture, veterinary medicine, etc.).

433 Financial situation. Taxes. The circle of Sine-Saloum is constantly increasing in importance because of its size, population, and economic resources.

[496] Because of its exceptional location, the railway from
[497] the Sudan crosses it over a distance of 190 kilometers. Seven
[505] stations mark it out. Its railroad network and its system of highways and canals permit it to drain to Kaolack and
[499] Foundiougne all of the products of the soil. Thus, the total commerce for 1927 (imports and exports combined) amounted
651 to 350 million francs for the circle. The customs duties collected for the benefit of the general budget of French West Africa reached 13 million francs. The taxes from the tax rolls (personal taxes, patents, licenses, etc.) have risen to 25 million francs, whereas they did not exceed the figure of 4,300,000 francs in 1923. The advance is thus remarkable.

Native personal taxes alone in 1927 provided 3,768,355 francs, whereas in 1921 they brought in only 2,791,000 francs.

Taxes on livestock went from 270,000 francs in 1921 to 425,000 francs in 1927.

871 /104/ Education. Instruction is given to the children
[875] by French and native teachers. There is a regional school
[872] with 500 pupils at Kaolack. Primary schools are operating at Fatick, Foundiougne, Sokone, Gossas, Kaffrine, and Nioro. In all, 1,200 children receive instruction; only an elite goes to school. A need for the creation of new centers of education is felt, especially at Birkelane, Koungheul, Gandiaye, Niakhar, and Tataguine. Nevertheless, although instruction in French is given only in our schools, the natives also receive some rudiments of instruction in the Koranic schools. The latter are quite numerous.

1 [in KAOLACK - ANALYST]

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749 Medical aid. Medical aid and the struggle against epidemics are assured by the dispensaries set up at Kaolack and Fatick, each directed by a European doctor.

[759] The latter have under their orders native doctors and midwives residing in the chief town or distributed at the medical posts.

[652] The commune of Kaolack also has a municipal dispensary under the direction of a European doctor who is paid out of the funds of the communal budget.

744 Urban hygienic services likewise exist in the principal agglomerations of the circle, especially at Kaolack, Fatick, Foundiougne, Gossas, and Kaffrine.

Anti-variolic vaccination is practiced in even the smallest villages.

III. Economic Development

162 Labor force. The population of the circle is 28,000 natives and 1,300 Europeans and assimilated individuals.

161 The population density is thus 10.8 inhabitants per square kilometer, a proportion higher than the average for the whole of French West Africa, which does not amount to three inhabitants per square kilometer.

464 An employment office operates in the circle.

This does not prevent /Pl. 1 appears here/ /105/ serious difficulties in the recruitment of the labor force. The latter is unstable and inexperienced. Wages are not high at all,

465 especially in the cities.

At the time of the loading of the ships in the port of Kaolack, the wages of the workers sometimes climb to 15 and 20 francs per day. They are set on the average at 12 francs.

In some European operations, as at Latmingué, the agricultural workers have a daily wage of eight francs and in addition receive a ration of rice.

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/Between pp. 104 and 105/

Plate I

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Pilot Station at the Pointe de Sangomar.

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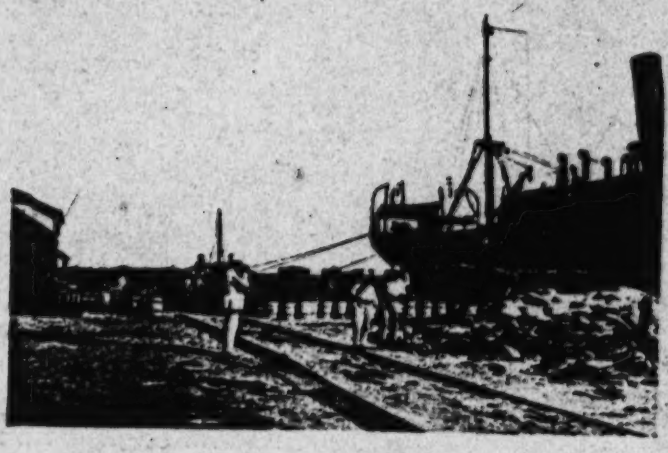

The Port of Kaolack: the quays.

/105 cont./

465 Domestic work is rare and costly. A cook is paid be-
357 tween 200 and 500 francs a month, a houseboy from 100 to 200 francs. These rates are similar to the ones prevailing in Dakar.

463 The native, moreover, is attracted to the cities only
465 by the high wages. Competition does not come into play, as in Europe. There are only rare specialists or artisans. As
[241] for the laborer, most often he prefers to work his field in the countryside or to hire himself out as an agricultural worker for a native employer who will feed him and leave to him a part of the harvest.

In an agricultural region such as Sine-Saloum, the native is primarily a cultivator.

244 Navétanes. Each year at the time of groundnut culti-
166 vation, Sine-Saloum gets many native cultivators coming
167 from the east and south (Sudan, Portuguese Guinea, Casamance, Upper Gambia, and even Guineans from Fouta-Djallon).

These immigrants are called "navétanes," from the word "navet," which means "rainy season," because these foreigners arrive shortly before the first storms and leave as soon as they have sold their harvest.

About 10,000 to 15,000 of them come each year. A
244 local custom called "Lâdyino" governs the relations between the
466 foreigner and his employer.

[465] This is a verbal agreement according to which the employer assures his co-covenanter food and lodgings for the period of the work and in addition loans him a particular field.

/106/ The navétane works for his employer every morning, except Monday and Thursday. The rest of the time is left to him for his personal crops. The navétane gets seeds from his landlord.

His work consists of the preparation of the field (lougan), sowing, and weeding.

After the harvest has been gathered, the landlord stops feeding him.

[465] At the time of his departure, the navétane must reimburse his employer for the cost of his food, which is fixed by

/106 cont./

244 contract, depending on the region, between 100 and 120
466 francs.

[465] The European agricultural concessions should draw inspiration from this custom. In order to retain a labor force, it would be proper to assure the native food and lodgings and leave a small field at his disposal, while at the same time allowing him a day or two a week to work for himself.

This formula is applied in Latmingué by the Société des plantations, which exerts all its efforts on the cultivation of manioc.

433 Economic facilities. The economic facilities of the circle include ports, railroads, highways, inland waterways, and a telegraph, telephone, and postal network.

504 Ports. These are river ports where the tide permits ocean-going steamers, not exceeding a certain tonnage, however, to conduct their operations along the wharves or landings built along the steep banks.

The Saloum has two ports of this type: Kaolack and Foundiougne.

The Sine has one port, Niamnioro.

The Miniminian, an affluent of the Gambia, has one port, Saboya.

On the Saloum, between Foundiougne and Kaolack, two more embarkation points are visited: Kamatane, included in the concession of MM. Civrac frères (left bank), and Lyndiane, included in the concession of the Société des Anciens Etablissements Charles Peyrissac et Cie. (right bank).

On all of the other channels or marigots /107/ embarkation and debarkation points -- with wharves -- accessible only to cutters with a tonnage between 25 to 50 tons have been installed. These cutters make the transit and carry their cargo to the big ports of Kaolack, Foundiougne, and Niamnioroh.

Over the past several years, Kaolack has become an important embarkation and debarkation point. It is also the
[496] natural port of the French Sudan because it has the advantage of being linked to this colony by a branch which connects it

/107 cont./

504 to the Thiès-Niger railroad. The Kayes-Kaolack route saves
[496] about 225 kilometers for the merchandise on the Kayes-Dakar journey, which is appreciable, considering the high cost of the railroad rates.

Exporters, and even importers, therefore have an interest in using the port of Kaolack.

To justify this interest, however, it was necessary: 1st,
[502] to put marker buoys on the Saloum; 2nd, to equip the port.

The buoying was completely redone in 1922; it is examined and repaired each year.

Modern facilities for the port are on the way to being realized.

504 653 New works at the port of Kaolack. The government of the colony, after having made different studies concerning the arrangements at the port of Kaolack, opened a competition at the beginning of 1927, by means of which it called on the large public-works enterprises to submit proposals for the arrangements on the right bank of the Saloum River for a distance of 350 meters, with the view of enabling ocean-going vessels to load and unload their merchandise directly, without the aid of barges or tenders, and for the construction of a
[491] permanent bridge on the Saloum, about 200 meters long, intended to replace the Noirot bridge, located about two kilometers upstream from the port.

The plans of the Société de constructions Edmond Coignet, of Paris, which were classed No. 1 as being the most adequate for the requirements of commerce and as requiring the least expense, anticipate the following construction and arrangements:

504 A reinforced concrete landing, 350 meters /108/ long and eight meters wide, whose upstream end will be near the Chavanel wharf, and whose downstream end will extend 110 meters toward the present downstream landing of the Thiès-Niger railroad.

The bank of the new work will coincide with the frontage of the approach of the existing landing and in addition will be protected by reinforced concrete pilings every 30 meters.

The landing will be constructed to support a uniformly distributed load of 3,000 kilograms per square meter, as well

/108 cont./

504 as a set of tracks for a five-ton crane and two railroad tracks. At its downstream end, a reinforced concrete bridge will permit connecting the tracks on the landing with the station of Kaolack.

Behind the landing the terrepleins will be embanked in such a way as to constitute a platform about 300 meters deep extending between the new work and the Rue de la Poste. This platform, intended to contain seccos and eventually some sheds, will be cut by five longitudinal streets ten meters wide and four transverse streets 20 meters wide. These streets will be built with concrete and will have special facilities for the drainage of winter rainwater. Tracks connected with the Kaolack station will be embedded in the concrete of the longitudinal streets.

A large maritime station will be built downstream from the terrepleins which have just been described. It will be made up of a number of sections permitting the convoys of cars which have passed through the Kaolack station to be subsequently shunted to the various longitudinal streets of the terrepleins or to the landing.

The assemblage of the works and arrangements schematically described above will permit an important extension of the present port toward the west where three years from now a truly modern port will be built. There the important transfers of goods made between the Thiès-Niger railroad and the ocean-going vessels will be done with the latest types of mechanical manipulations known, which will insure /109/ more and more commercial transport between the Sudan and Europe.

491 [493] The wooden Noirot bridge presently existing, on which the traffic has increased considerably since the introduction of the automobile in French West Africa, will not much longer be able to support with safety the weight of the cars and trucks and should, in accordance with the plan which has been approved, be replaced by a reinforced concrete bridge made up of 13 trusses with a compass of 15 meters, resting on 12 piers based on reinforced concrete piles.

This bridge will be capable of supporting a railroad

/109 cont./

491 line in addition to the normal traffic of pedestrians and vehicles.

653 The colony of Senegal, in concert with the Société Coignet, is currently preparing the agreement, which will be passed immediately and which will require three years for the landing, the embankments of the terrepleins, and the bridge.

The realization of the works and arrangements planned will be an interesting example of close co-operation between the government of the colony, the public works services, the [441] Kaolack Chambre de Commerce, and private enterprise.

433 To demonstrate the importance of the port of Kaolack, it is sufficient to put some figures before the eyes of the reader. One will get an idea of the growth of the commercial movement that the privileged location of Kaolack on the river enabled one to foresee 15 years ago.

433 505 In 1905, Kaolack was still a small, insignificant village. Foundiougne was the great port of the Saloum. But Kaolack was the outlet for an entire hinterland much larger; it was the access route of the products from Baol and Haut-Saloum /Upper Saloum/; finally, it was the natural port for the Sudan. Its approach, 120 kilometers from the ocean and made difficult by the passage of the Sangomar channel and [502] the sandbanks of the river, has been facilitated by the buoys. Running aground has become much rarer. Piloting, however, is obligatory.

496 433 Railroads. The railroad from Thiès to Niger, /110/ extended by a branch of 22 kilometers, which starts at Guinguinéo and ends at Kaolack, brought out the full importance of the latter point as the lands located near the railroad were improved. This development will take several years. It is steadily and fully progressing today. Like all railroad lines, the artery of the Thiès-Niger breathes life into formerly deserted regions, which are now being populated and opened for colonization.

648 504 Undoubtedly Kaolack benefited from the non-application of the Franco-British pact of April 8, 1904. As is known,

/110 cont./

648 according to this agreement, Great Britain left to us on the
504 Gambia River, along with the territory of Kantora, the port of Yarboutenda, which she thought was accessible to ocean-going vessels. If this advantage did not exist, the text added, a port would be selected downstream and ceded to France, along with the lands defined by an arc of one kilometer in radius. Later on, Yarboutenda was discovered to be inaccessible to ocean-going vessels. The French government then had the right to select a port on the Gambia which offered the advantages that the agreement consented to give us. After study, the port of Nianimaro was selected by the Government-general of Dakar. But the negotiations between Paris and London were never concluded.

496 Because of its natural position on a navigable river,
504 Kaolack has remedied a situation which might have been very disadvantageous for our commerce. The rail line was even extended from Kaolack to Lyndiane, over a distance of 12 kilometers, in order to favor a private enterprise established on the river at this place.

Lyndiane is in fact a point on the right bank of the Saloum where vessels can tie up easily. The Etablissements Ch. Peyrissac et Cie., who own this port and have branches in both Senegal and the Sudan, have a real advantage in this privileged situation.

496 We have given some indication above of the development of the railroad: 190 kilometers in Sine-Saloum. The seven stopping stations are: Gossas, Guinguinéo, /111/ Birkelane, Kaffrine, Malem Hodar, Maka-Yop, and Koungheul, all located at the outlet of trade routes carrying groundnuts.

491 Roads. Branching off from this railroad line, as well as from all the major centers, many highways streak across the country in every direction. These roads, or rather dirt roads,
[494] are for the most part accessible to automobiles: tourist cars and transport trucks.

There are more than 3,000 kilometers of dirt roads in the circle, of which 2,000 kilometers are used daily in the dry

/111 cont./

491 season by truckage, the development of which has grown in
[494] considerable proportions since 1920.

The network of roads is on the whole excellent. Every winter, it is subject to deteriorations; the latter are repaired as soon as the dry season arrives. Thousands of workers making
[464] their annual contribution are employed there under the supervision of native chiefs and under the direction of the European administrative authorities. Some artificial works, embankments, bridges, culverts, gutters, and channels have been constructed in the swampy places or to cross spots of water.

363 In the communes, the roads are gradually being paved with paving stones as the urban streets develop. In Kaolack six kilometers of streets have been paved with stones in the past five years.

505 Inland navigation. As we have already seen, the Saloum is the major channel of inland navigation. Steamers enter it by the maritime passage of Sangomar. In the channel, 120 kilometers long, up to Kaolack, there are some bends or
[502] passages that are quite difficult to negotiate. A pilot is necessary. All of the boats have one, whom they take on at Dakar or Rufisque. The Sine is traveled in the same fashion up to Niamnioroh.

[501] There are countless marigots which are accessible to cutters, small launches, barges, or dugouts. There are several thousand kilometers /112/ of waterways which connect villages, centers of cultivation, and fishing agglomerations.

In the Bas-Saloum in particular, commercial traffic is handled by cutters or by dugouts.

Saboya, on the marigot Miniminian, an affluent of the Gambia, is accessible to ocean-going vessels. Each year boats come to seek the stock of groundnuts produced by this region.

Here are some comparative figures on navigation for the three ports of Kaolack, Foundiougne, and Saboya.

/112 cont./

Port of Kaolack

505 In 1913, the ports of Kaolack and Foundiougne already saw a total of 1,041 incoming and outgoing vessels, but the port of Kaolack did not exceed 200 out of this figure: 100 incoming and 100 outgoing. This was because no customs [151] office existed at Kaolack at that time. Foundiougne was the major center of customs operations. It remained so until 1922. Starting in 1923, Kaolack took flight; Foundiougne then became the second-largest port on the Saloum.

Here are the figures for Kaolack for the years 1922-1927:

(See the following tables.)

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23: Aujas--25 G-5 (no date) 1929 MS37 Senegal 4937

Port of Kaolack

Years	Vessels		Total	Imports		Exports		Total	
	In-coming	Out-going		Weight	Value	Weight	Value	Weight	Value
				tons	francs	tons	francs	tons	francs
1922	191	183	374	2,773	5,051,568	33,396	15,511,484	36,169	20,563,052
1923	147	581	1,228	44,808	27,954,644	79,721	48,360,455	124,529	76,305,100
1924	516	511	1,027	31,300	43,081,146	94,800	99,230,755	126,107	142,311,901
1925	482	483	965	51,150	71,165,898	121,241	139,292,637	172,391	161,401,932
1926	791	791	1,582	57,245	128,869,032	140,386	218,488,749	197,631	348,357,781
1927	828	829	1,657	60,789	116,138,356	138,664	213,889,002	199,453	330,027,358

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23: Aujas--26 G-5 (no date) 1929 MS97 Senegal M937

PORT OF FOUNDIOUGNE

Years	Vessels		Total	Imports		Exports		Total	
	In-coming	Out-going		Weight	Value	Weight	Value	Weight	Value
				tons	francs	tons	francs	tons	francs
1922	624	630	1,254	5,741	15,742,749	85,507	45,523,369	91,245	61,275,11a
1923	822	785	1,607	6,292	15,024,623	43,303	27,129,527	49,595	42,154,250
1924	744	739	1,483	10,957	28,304,623	43,422	41,882,147	54,379	70,186,770
1925	650	661	1,311	13,453	32,501,849	59,031	61,006,933	72,484	94,408,782
1926	707	747	1,454	14,644	41,776,166	65,226	90,798,776	79,869	132,574,942
1927	727	753	1,480	10,427	36,343,264	57,471	81,325,445	67,898	117,668,709

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PORT OF SABOYA

Years	Vessels		Total	Imports		Exports		Total	
	In-coming	Out-going		Weight	Value	Weight	Value	Weight	Value
				tons	francs	tons	francs	tons	francs
1922	Noth-ing	Noth-ing							
1923	7	7	14	43	78,282	1,657	831,147	1,700	909,429
1924	9	9	18	107	290,000	1,601	6,710,000	4,279	6,810,000
1925	11	8	19	149	331,000	1,609	2,020,011	4,069	2,351,011
1926	6	4	10	75	150,000	3,834	5,443,800	3,909	5,593,800
1927	3	3	6	21	100,000	4,258	6,710,000	4,279	6,810,000

23: Aujas--27 G-5 (no date) 1929 MS37 Senegal MS37
/115/.

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Movement of the Ports of Sine-Saloum: Kaolack, Foundiougne, and Saboya

Years	Vessels		Total	Imports		Exports		Total	
	In-coming	Out-going		Weight	Value	Weight	Value	Weight	Value
				tons	francs	tons	francs	tons	francs
1922	815	813	1,628	8,514	20,794,317	118,903	61,043,853	127,417	81,838,170
1923	1,476	1,373	2,849	51,143	42,979,267	124,681	76,321,129	175,824	119,368,779
1924	1,269	1,259	2,528	42,364	71,675,769	139,823	141,112,902	182,194	214,398,421
1925	1,143	1,152	2,295	64,752	103,998,747	182,192	202,319,581	246,944	258,161,725
1926	1,504	1,542	3,046	71,964	170,795,198	209,446	309,287,525	281,409	486,526,523
1927	1,558	1,585	3,143	71,237	152,581,620	200,393	301,924,447	271,630	454,506,067

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23: Anjas--28 G-5 (no date) 1929 MS37 Senegal MS37

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Total Traffic for the Circle
(Kaolack, Foundiougne, Saboya)

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Periods	Tonnage Unloaded	Tonnage Loaded	Tonnage Unloaded and Loaded
1909-1913	12,076 t.	49,189 t.	61, 265 t.
1914-1918	12,333	70,767	83,100
1919-1923	17,438	99,803	17,241
1924	42,288	139,712	182,000
1925	64,668	182,277	246,945
1926	71,964	209,446	281,410
1927	71,237	200,393	271,630

433 The tonnage decreased by about 10,000 tons in 1927,
505 but this was solely due to the fact that the groundnut harvest was slightly deficient as a consequence of an overabundance of rain. On the whole, one can say that there has been constant and uninterrupted progress since the pre-war period. The announcement of this figure indicates the flourishing situation of the region of Sine-Saloum.

433 In 1927 the total value of imports and exports for the
439 circle amounted to 454 million francs, 330 million of which were for Kaolack. With what left by way of the small customs stations along the border with Gambia, one can acknowledge that the value of general commerce in 1927 was almost 500 million, or almost a third of the total commerce of the colony of Senegal, which in 1927 amounted to 1 billion 562 million.

These figures speak for themselves.

Agricultural Resources of the Region: Crops

244 The principal crop of Sine-Saloum is the groundnut.
433 This plant is cultivated everywhere, but the best lands are
[134] in Sine and north of the railroad. The lands of Bas-Saloum

/117 cont./

244 433 [134 242] are much less suitable for this crop because of their composition which gives a certain acidity to the nuts, thus rendering them less suitable for industrial use in /118/ the production of fine oils. There have been attempts to correct this defect and to improve the quality of Bas-Saloum by means of seed selection and by the continued addition of seed from Sine; this has not yet been successful.

Fallow lands, however, are not lacking in the other regions of the circle.

There are 230,000 hectares planted in groundnuts. This figure represents 0.85 hectares per inhabitant. This is about 1/11 of the total area of the circle.

In 1914 this crop extended over 70,000 hectares. It has thus tripled.

The production, which was 75,000 tons in 1918, is about 140,000 tons today. It has doubled in 10 years. It amounts to almost a third of the harvest of Senegal.

One can determine the production of groundnuts in the circle since 1921 by the following figures (in tons):

Years	1921	1922	1923	1924
Tons	80,000	90,000	110,000	125,000
Years	1925	1926	1927	
Tons	135,000	145,000	140,000	

[167 242] These results are due in part to the increase in the population by the influx of foreign workers into the circle, who came to settle there or who hire themselves out, and in part to the selection of seeds and their distribution in ever increasing quantities.

[654 441 474] The credit for this work is to be given to the administration, the Société de Prevoyance /Welfare Society/, and the Chambre de Commerce of Kaolack, whose combined efforts have made it possible to achieve such a fine result.

/118 cont./

244 There is no doubt, however, that the yield per hectare
433 is diminishing and that on much of the land today it is no
242 more than 500-600 kilograms per hectare, instead of the 700-800 kilograms, and even 900, as has been seen sometimes in Sine. The land is becoming exhausted as a result of the lack of fertilizer and the absence of crop rotation. Two other factors likewise come into play: the too primitive native methods of cultivation and the inadequate selection of seeds. The native cultivator continues to work his land with the [412] hilaire, a kind /Pl. II appears here/ /119/ of spade with which he contents himself with scratching the soil. He thus reduces his work too much; he does his dressings badly or inadequately.

It has been demonstrated by the experiments made by the Compagnie française de l'Afrique Occidentale at Latmingué that with mechanical farm implements one could easily double the yield per hectare. On newly cleared land and with these methods, the yield has never been less than 1,000 kilograms and at times has reached 1,500 kilograms per hectare. It is necessary to persuade the native that he will profit by working the land with a little better equipment. The agricultural [654] services are working at this, and it is to be hoped that the more modern cultivation methods will double the yield. This is a critical problem.

243 Millet. Millet is likewise a crop on the road to progress.
433 The types cultivated are: small and great millet, or, according to their native names, souna, sanio, bassi, fehla.

In 1927, the cultivated area was 240,000 hectares, with a total production of 119,000 tons, a little more than the needs of the population. In 1926, for a production of 80,000 tons, the population had sowed 210,000 hectares. The surplus production is consumed in the regions bordering Sine-Saloum.

Rice. Different varieties of rice are cultivated, especially in Sine and Bas-Saloum, where the annual rainfall is greater and where the soil is suitable for this crop. One can estimate that 15,000 hectares are planted to rice with a total

23: Aujas--32 G-5 (no date) 1929 MS37 Senegal MS37

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Plate II

A Gambian mahogany tree on the Latmingué road.

133

The mouth of the Saloum at Dionouar.

/119 cont./
[433] [243] production of about 14,000 tons, which are entirely consumed on the spot.

[244] [474] Manioc. Manioc is the crop grown in some plantings around the villages. The native Société de Prevoyance distributed many cuttings in most of the cantons in 1925.

About 5,000 hectares are planted to manioc, with a production of 25,000 tons of fresh manioc.

[243] /120/ Maize. Maize is not planted everywhere. It is cultivated in Bas-Saloum and in Sine, a little in Saloum. There are 2,000 hectares of maize and 2,000 tons of production.

[244] Beans (niébés). The bean called "niébé" is planted on about 15,000 hectares, yielding a harvest of 7,000 tons.

Production, however, remains stationary, because the plant is attacked by various insects (weevils).

[245] [654] Bananas. Two banana plantations, established by the administration, exist at Sangako and Bani in Bas-Saloum. They could be multiplied in this region.

[249] Sugar cane. This product is not cultivated very much -- the soil is not suitable -- with rare exceptions.

[248] Cotton. Native cotton is cultivated only in small stretches. This crop takes up 700 hectares of land.

[249] Indigo. The region that is the principal producer of indigo is Bas-Saloum. This crop has tended to increase for the past several years.

[314] Kapok. The kapok tree lives in the wild state. There are some in the cantons along the railroad (N'Gahaye-Gossas), but especially to the south, starting at Kaffrine and above all in Koungheul. The native does not harvest it or harvests it poorly. The circle could yield 100 tons of kapok, but it provides only 20 tons at the most, used locally or sold abroad.

/120 cont./

433 Truck gardening. Truck gardens exist in the major
244 centers. This is still, however, a European crop, the native
242 consuming very little of our vegetables.

An experimental garden, or rather a nursery, was set up in Kaolack about 20 years ago. This nursery provided many tree plants for the Europeans and natives (eucalyptus, mimosa, flamboyants, Gambia, mahogany, silk-cotton trees, orange trees, lemon trees, and guava trees).

[648] /121/ European crops. Concessions. No agricultural colonization has been undertaken by Europeans, except at Latmingué.

In 1920, the Compagnie Française de l'Afrique Occidentale requested a concession of 200 hectares at Latmingué, 20 kilometers southeast of Kaolack, very near the Saloum, in order to conduct experiments on the mechanical cultivation of groundnuts. Improvements were made for four years. Improved agricultural equipment was used (tractors, gang plows, mechanical seeders, pulverizers, harrow-plows, and pickers). The tests made it possible to get an idea of the advantages of mechanical cultivation of the groundnut. The shortage of manpower, however, was an obstacle to extending the cultivation. The Compagnie Française abandoned this concession, which was recovered and expanded by the Société des Plantations of Latmingué, which now exploits it. The latter cultivates manioc exclusively. It has already cleared 200 hectares and planted 270 hectares in manioc. It is trying to cultivate this plant annually in nine months instead of 18. This development should be watched with interest. The needs of the mother country for manioc are considerable, and Senegal would find there another source of economic prosperity.

233 Animal husbandry. Pasturage is abundant, especially during the rainy season. It is sufficient to raise large herds of cattle, sheep, horses, and donkeys. Epidemics, however, decimate the cattle, which vary between 250,000 and 300,000 heads. During the dry season, the problem of animal fodder is doubled by the difficulty of finding water for the

/121 cont./

233 animals to drink. Nevertheless, cattle-raising remains a worthwhile enterprise, a herd doubling in three years.

[232] [654] [492] No serious attempt to improve the breed of cattle has been made by the administration.

Since the multiplication of automobiles, the horse has been somewhat forsaken. The breed is small, but sturdy.

/122/ As for sheep and goats, their rustic breed is resistant. This breeding does not require any care.

313 Forests. Forests cover a notable part of the circle. They must be protected because they are on the way to progressive disappearance as a result of the abuses of brush fires and systematic clearing by the native, wishing to increase his crops.

There is no methodical exploitation of the forests. The exploitation is confined to the cutting of palm trees for the production of charcoal. There still exist, however, some beautiful stands of hardwoods, especially of Gambia mahogany, or false mahogany, particularly in Bas-Saloum.

To the east, between Kaffrine and Koungheul, stocks of small bamboos exist, especially in the humid depressions. [342] These bamboos are cut by the natives who make panels out of them, called "crintings," to serve as closings or veranda partitions. [435] The price of these panels, from two to three meters long, varies between 15 and 25 francs.

316 Quarries. There are many laterite quarries, exploited for the most part. The stone is not as hard as at Rufisque or at Dakar.

317 433 Salt marshes. There is industrial exploitation of the salt marshes at Kaolack. The Société des Salines of Sine-Saloum has exploited the salt marshes at Diorana since 1915. The region of the Saloum is very fortunate from this viewpoint. The constant evaporation of the water of this arm of the sea and its many branches gives the liquid mass a degree of saturation much higher than that of the ocean water.

/122 cont./

317 Current production varies from 20,000 to 30,000 tons, which
433 are consumed in the region and exported to Senegal and the
[651] Sudan. This Société is hampered in its development by the taxes on salt and by transportation costs which particularly burden this product.

From time immemorial the natives have been exploiting the salt marshes at Tickat, upstream from Kaolack, and on the arms of the Saloum to the west of Fatick. They produce only what is needed for their consumption. /123/
[651] During the time of the Bours, this exploitation was the occasion for a fee in kind for the benefit of the sovereign.

433 Native industrie. In addition to the native salt marshes,
258 we might also mention the fish-drying industry. The many lagoons, marigots, and watercourses of the region contain an abundance of excellent ocean fish (polynemids, pike, skate, sole, etc.). The Niominka race, accustomed to fishing, draw a remunerative advantage from it. The drying of fish is practiced at Fatick, Foundiougne, and in Bas-Saloum. One can estimate the quantity of dried fish at close to 500
[438] tons per year. The consumption is purely local, and the markets of the circle and of neighboring circles are the usual selling places.

433 The only other local industries are those of the potters,
163 basket makers, and weavers. Some native blacksmiths set
[324] up shop in the villages at the time of cultivation; they are, moreover, of the Ouoloff or Moorish race.

433 European industries. There is only one European in-
258 dustry in the circle. An oil factory for the processing of
[648] groundnuts has been set up at Kaolack by Engineer Gaudart. Today this factory belongs to the Société des Huileries et Rizeries Ouest-Africaines /West African Oil Refinery and Rice Company/. Its equipment is modern. Its production is large; it
[439] sells it in the colony, in France, and in the nearby British colonies.

/123 cont./

439 Commerce. Commerce has not stopped progressing since the end of the war, for both imports and exports.

Fabrics constitute the principal part of the imports, along with toys and construction materials.

The groundnut is the principal product exported. It is the one that makes up the wealth of the region.

[471] Commerce is for the most part in the hands of French Sociétés /companies/ or individuals, who have established branches in all the important centers. These branches have been multiplying in the past several years and even extend into the small villages which are disposal centers /124/ for the sought-after agricultural product. Today the truck penetrates into the most remote corners. In other words the farmer no longer has to put himself out in order to sell his products. One comes to him to buy his groundnuts at the very place of the harvest. The petty retail trade is in the hands of native [443] traders or Syrian merchants.

Imports. We saw above the figures for the movement of navigation and the tonnage of the goods unloaded in the various ports. The high prices for fabrics that have been reached in the last three or four years have caused a certain drop in business, from which the wholesale trade and the retail trade have suffered.

439 505 Exports. We are giving below the figures for the export of groundnuts. As is known, for Senegal the past two years have been calculated at a tonnage of 483,980 tons in 1926 and 485,608 tons in 1927, with a respective value of 740 million and 616 million.

Out of this total, the share of the ports of the Saloum, going back to 1921, is the following:

/124 cont./

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	Kaolack	Foundiougne	Totals (1)
1921	. .	73,885 t.	73,885 t.
1922	29,192 t.	79,882	109,074
1923	75,503	36,954	112,457
1924	90,421	39,221	129,633
1925	110,787	52,986	163,773
1926	135,899	58,271	194,170
1927	134,947	51,808	186,755

1. Kaolack, up to 1922, had no customs office. It was Foundiougne which centralized all the operations.

To the above figures must be added those for the port of Saboya which we gave above.

On the whole, the tonnage of groundnuts exported by way of the ports of the circle was 198,000 tons in 1926; in 1927, 191,000 tons, or 40% of the /125/ total exports of groundnuts from Senegal. It should be noted that in 1906 the tonnage exported amounted to only 31,000 tons.

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433 The production of the circle being 140,000 tons, the difference over that comes from the harvest of the regions of Baol, Tambacounda, and the Sudan, which is shipped to Kaolack and Foundiougne. If one compares these figures with the production of 1913, which was 60,000 tons, one sees how much progress has marked the cultivation of groundnuts.

Imports and exports combined make the general commerce of the circle reach close to 300,000 tons at present.

651 Customs receipts. The Kaolack customs office took in as receipts the sum of 13,901,810 francs in 1927.

The one at Foundiougne, 4,001,249 francs.

Or a total of 17,903,059 francs.

If one adds to this the receipts from Saboya and those from the frontier posts of the Gambia, the total receipts exceed 18 million francs. We are far from the figure for 1905: 405,000 francs.

/125 cont./

443 Markets. Fairs. Daily markets have been established in the mixed communes of Kaolack, Foundiougne, Fatick, and Gossas, as well as in the important centers such as Guinguineo, Birkelane, Kaffrine, Koungheul, Nioro, Saboya, Sokone, and Gandiaye. Those of the mixed communes and important ports are much frequented and have a good trade.

In addition, cattle markets have been held monthly at Kaolack since 1924.

543 Fairs have been instituted in order to familiarize the public with the principal products of the region. A first Fair-Exposition was held at Kaolack in June 1925; it was a great success. It had been organized with the co-operation of the administration and commerce. This happy attempt was renewed in April 1926 with the same success. The governor-general, M. Carde, was present at these two fine manifestations of the economic life of a region in full development.

453 /126/ Banks. The dependable index of the development of commercial transactions is given to us by the banking groups which have been established at Kaolack.

The Banque de l'Afrique Occidentale Française opened a branch in the chief town of the circle in 1927. Moreover, other credit establishments had preceded it. An agency of the Banque française d'Afrique was opened in 1924. The Banque Commerciale africaine followed in 1925.

871 Education. It is necessary to educate the native if we want him later to be our collaborator in the work of colonization. We are realizing this duty by the public schooling which is given at Kaolack in a regional school attended by nearly 500 children; a home economics school is attached to it. Primary schools where the number of pupils is very great are in operation at Fatick, Foundiougne, Gossas, Kaffrine, Nioro, and Sokone.

874 461 It is also necessary to develop vocational education because we lack good workers. We are going to be in want of artisans if we do not remedy a situation which had already appeared in this region several years ago. Unfortunately, the

/126 cont./

874 461 young people are inclined to seek our courses which prepare them for officialdom. The elite wishes to be instructed doctorally. It disdains manual trades. It is this state of mind that must be changed. Craftmanship is dying out. The governor of Senegal, under the over-all supervision of the govemor-general, has understood this. The vocational courses in the capital of the colony, Saint-Louis, have been revised and improved. Agricultural schools have been established. More must be done. It is necessary to add a vocational workshop to each regional school and even to some of the primary schools. The child should become familiar -- before leaving school -- with the handling of the hammer, the chisel, and the plane; he should know how to use a shovel, spade, and rake. All of these skills should be lifted up out of disrepute, which has no reason for existing. Manual work must be put on an equal footing with intellectual work. We need good workers even more than good writers.

/127/ It is the duty of the administration to prepare the younger generation for the task that awaits them.

654 474 244 Agricultural mutuality. The Société de Prevoyance. Within this order of ideas, and in order to develop a spirit of mutuality and a sense of foresight among the natives, the administration has created, like Algeria, native welfare and mutual loan societies. A society of this type has been operating in Sine-Saloum for many years. Its founding goes back to 1907. Its beginnings were modest. At first it brought together 718 cultivators. By 1910, the number of members of the society reached the figure of 1,567. This was still very few. The idea had borne fruit, however. The administration soon brought in the majority and then the totality of the cultivators.

[652] In July 1907, at its founding, the governor of Senegal put at the disposal of the administrator of the circle the sum of 20,000 francs in order to promote this effort for mutuality.

Thanks to this advance, 99,700 kilograms of groundnut seed was loaned to the 718 first adherents, who returned them in kind after the harvest with an interest of 30%.

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654 From 1907 to 1910, storehouses were built to shelter the
474 seeds. In 1910, these storehouses were multiplied in order
244 to be more within the reach of the borrowers. On December 6,
[251] 1910, a decree of the governor of Senegal approved the definitive statutes of this society. The latter, on the basis of the experience of several years, have just been supplemented and revised.

The society of Sine-Saloum has 19 sections distributed throughout the circle.

As early as 1911 it had 160,000 members, and its cash on hand amounted to 139,499 francs. Its storehouse stock was 317 tons of selected seed.

Today, the society has property valued at more than 1 million. It has an annual income and expenditure budget of 5 million, including the value of the seeds which it keeps /128/ in its storehouses for the loans that it grants to its members for reimbursement in kind.

Since it demands an interest of 20%, it very rapidly increases its stock of seed. Thus, in 1928 it was holding more than 5,000 tons of seed. By 1929, it will have 7,000 tons. This is the precious guarantee for a fruitful harvest.

[242] Because all of this seed is carefully selected by the native chiefs under the control of the administrator, with methodical rigor. Although some chiefs are less strict in the selection, the majority understand their role. In the cantons of Diokoul Gandiaye, Kahone, Birkelane, and in those of Sine, Sokone, Sanghako, Koungheul, and Kaffrine, the seeds are sorted one by one, and only the shells with two nuts are accepted.

The cultivator quickly yields to these requirements, because he has recognized the necessity for them.

These loans are made in the month of June, before sowing time. They are repayable in kind in the month of December, after the harvest, with an interest of 20%, the said interest likewise payable in kind.

No defaults have been reported. The loans are for two hectoliters per cultivator.

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654 474 244 [731] [426] In order to enjoy these advantages the society member pays an assessment of one franc per year.

He can also request and obtain loans of food, rice, or millet, if he is justified by a case of great necessity: scarcity as a result of an unfortunate or calamitous event.

Finally, since last year, he has been able to obtain loans in money on the condition of certain guarantees. These loans are granted for cultivation, and also for the improvement of his agricultural equipment, or for starting or enlarging his herd. These loans may amount to as much as 5,000 francs and are to be paid back within several years.

654 474 In 1927, the members numbered 240,000.

The society has 30 storehouses, more than half of which are built out of permanent materials: laterite stones or cement.

[251] 343 [312] /129/ It has utilized its resources to make wells out of reinforced concrete in order to procure for the inhabitants the potable water necessary for their needs and for the needs of their animals.

It gives bonuses to the cultivators who exhibit the best harvests. It also awards bonuses for the capture of animals harmful to agriculture.

The work accomplished is remarkable.

[244] The increase in the production of groundnuts in the circle is due to the Société de Prévoyance, under the control of the administration.

In it, commerce has a valuable organization whose usefulness it recognizes and whose incontestable and uncontested services it moreover appreciates.

312 The water problem. Wells. The serious question of water presents itself in the circle as it does everywhere in Senegal. The economic life of the region depends on the water supply of its inhabitants.

In order to prevent the danger of a water shortage, it has been necessary to dig wells. The séanes, natural reservoirs or pockets dug by man, were too small in number. They received rain water, but their volume was limited, and a few weeks sufficed to empty them after the last rainfall.

/129 cont./

312 The native digs wells. But potable water is sometimes reached at great depths. As a result, the wells that are not shored up collapse, or, even if shored up with wooden boards, landslides are produced. The wells are choked up, and it is necessary to do the work over again.

312 653 In 1904, Captain Friry of the Engineers was put in charge of the study of this problem. This officer made numerous soundings, dug experimental wells, and adopted a system of reinforced concrete tubes built gradually as the hole was deepened, which assured both great safety and great rapidity in the work. A movable shaft, with a diameter slightly smaller than that of the well, makes it possible to isolate, in the layer of aquiferous sand, a volume of water sufficient for drawing.

/130/ Captain Friry dug a certain number of them. He trained well-digging teams. They consisted of European and native personnel. The undertaking was tediously long, because it was sometimes a matter of going 70 to 80 meters deep. At times it was necessary in the end to go through a very thick layer of white and compact clay before reaching the water; it is true that the water rose very high in the well, but the work had to be abandoned in several places, the work becoming impossible at a depth of about 80 meters due to the lack of ventilation equipment. There was also the disagreeable surprise of coming upon a pocket of salt water.

In order to avoid these inconveniences, the natives were urged to dig wells without masonry wherever they could, and a promise was made to them that a reinforced concrete well would be built for them next to their own well whenever they found a good supply of water at an acceptable depth.

This promise, made in 1905, was not kept.

[474] [654] Fortunately, the Société de Prévoyance, created two years later, was able to include in its program as early as 1910-1911 the construction of reinforced concrete wells by the Friry system. A public works supervisor, M. Denis, who had worked under the direction of Captain Friry, was hired for this task under the direction of the administrator.

/130 cont./

312 Thus, in the past 15 years, many wells have been dug
653 in Sine-Saloum.

In 1928, 600 reinforced concrete wells and about 400 native wells were counted in the circle. About 10 or 15 wells are completed each year, and as many are mended, repaired, or put in good order. The expenditures are sometimes great, considering that a reinforced concrete well 70 meters deep comes close to 20,000 francs at the present time. There is
[463] one or two well-digging experts per canton, who make up their own teams. We thus have there about 30 natives perfectly informed about this work. Sine-Saloum has loaned
[648] head well-diggers to the neighboring colonies, especially to Mauritania. The governments there have been very satisfied.

Should the policy of the wells be continued? It /Pl. III appears here/ /131/ has produced results. It has permitted going to what is most pressing. In the villages in the bush, it is the wells that for a long time yet will supply the inhabitant and the herds. In the cities there is the problem of bringing in water. Dakar has been considering this since 1903. Wells have been drilled everywhere in the peninsula of Cape Verde. Potable water has been found in the subsoil, but, until very recently, the quantity was barely sufficient for the needs of the city and the port. Today, the catchment centers at Point B give an abundance of water. It was after the mission of Dr. Moineau that drilling points in the vicinity of large agglomerations, such as Dakar, Thiès, Rufisque, Diourbel, and Kaolack, were proposed by this water-diviner.

For Kaolack, not one attempt has been made by the government of Senegal to verify the hypotheses of Dr. Moineau.

But it has called upon a mining engineer, M. Boyer, to undertake surveys to search it for subterranean waters that could be collected.

This engineer began his investigations at Gossas in Sine-Saloum. They were crowned with success in 1927, with water caught at a depth of 195 meters gushing from the soil; the bringing in of water has begun; the problem appears solved for this trade center.

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Plate III

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A cement well in a native village.

Drilling for water at Gossas.

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312 653 For Kaolack, M. Boyer found water at a depth of 95 meters. Moreover, the municipality of this city had also made investigations whose results were interesting. Excellent water was found at a depth of only 15 meters, with a volume of about 500 cubic meters per day. This quantity is not enough to supply the city of Kaolack. It is necessary to find 1,000 cubic meters, and this is what the government of Senegal and the mixed commune are working on.

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Conclusion

433 Twenty years ago M. Camille Guy, then governor of Senegal, wrote in a study of Sine-Saloum: "There is no doubt but that Sine-Saloum is a rich country which could produce much more than it produces, that ten years ago it entered an era of prosperity which is accentuated year by year, and that, at the expense of the picturesque and original, it has become a region of Senegal for which the future is full of promises, some of which are now on the way to realization and others are incalculable" (1).

1. Cf. La Géographie, 1908. "Le Sine-Saloum," by M. Camille Guy.

The facts have confirmed this appraisal. In fact, in the economic realm, the results reached the forecasts of the most optimistic. The agricultural, commercial, and even industrial development can only be accentuated in the near future. Aided by official business advisors and by the local administrative bodies, the high administration has grasped the importance of the region and the value of the port of Kaolack. The sacrifices authorized by public finances have already borne fruit. They can only accelerate the economic progress of the region as soon as the program of works planned and at present underway is accomplished.